Amendments to the Claims:

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) A superconducting wire rod filled with or interiorly including a first superconductor containing ~~a boron~~ magnesium diboride (MgB_2), wherein a metal powder is added to a super-conducting material included in ~~said~~ the superconducting wire rod, ~~said~~ the metal powder is selected from at least one of ~~an~~ indium, ~~a~~ tin, and ~~a~~ lead, ~~an iron, a magnesium and an aluminum,~~ ~~said~~ the metal power having an average grain diameter equal to or less than 20 μm is 5 to 25 vol% dispersed in ~~said~~ the superconducting material, a density of the superconducting material included in the superconducting wire rod after a final work is equal to or more than 90% a theoretical density, and a critical current density is equal to or more than 1000 A/cm^2.

2. (currently amended) A superconducting wire rod as claimed in claim 1, wherein a defect portion having an area equal to or more than 10 mm^2 does not exist over an entire length of the superconducting wire rod, on a surface of ~~said~~ the superconducting wire rod.

3. (currently amended) A superconducting wire rod as claimed in claim 1, having an allowable bending strain rate ε of 0.8% or more, wherein ε is defined as $\varepsilon = t/2r \times 100$, wherein t is the entire thickness of the superconducting wire, and r is the radius of bending, and wherein the superconducting wire, when bent, is ~~in the case that a bending strain rate~~ capable of maintaining at least ~~a~~

~~critical current density Jc(1)~~ 90% of the ~~equal to or more than a~~ critical current density ~~Jc(0) at a time~~ when no bending is applied to the wire rod ~~is defined as an allowable bending strain rate, the allowable bending strain rate ε (%) (ε = (t/2r) x 100) is equal to or more than 0.8%, on the assumption that an entire thickness of said superconducting wire rod is set to t, a radius of bending is set to r, and a rate of bending strain is set to ε~~.

4. (currently amended) A superconducting wire rod as claimed in claim 1, wherein ~~said~~ the first superconductor containing ~~the boron~~ magnesium diboride (MgB_2) is ~~made complex compound~~ complexed with a ~~different kind of~~ second superconductor.

5. (currently amended) A superconducting wire rod as claimed in claim 4, wherein ~~said different kind of~~ the second superconductor is a niobium titanium superconductor.

6. (currently amended) A connection for connecting a first superconducting wire rod with a second superconducting rod ~~as claimed in claim 1~~, wherein the connection ~~between the superconducting wire rods mentioned above~~ is achieved by bring one end of the first rod in close proximity to one end of the second rod, and applying or coating the ends with MgB_2 powder ~~using a connecting method corresponding to a bonding via the superconductor containing the boron~~ magnesium diboride.

7. (withdrawn) A method of producing a superconducting wire rod comprising:

a step of mixing a metal power having an average grain diameter equal to or less than 20 μm and selected from at least one of an indium, a tin, a

lead, an iron, a magnesium and an aluminum of 5 to 25 vol% to a superconducting powder containing a boron so as to produce a mixed powder;

a step of charging said mixed powder to a metal pipe; and

a step of wiring and/or rolling said metal pipe,

wherein a density of a superconducting material contained in the superconducting wire rod after a final process is equal to or more than 90%, and a critical current density is equal to or more than 1000 A/cm^2.